

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend claims 1-27 as follows.

The following is a complete listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parenthesis.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A hybrid telecommunications switch comprising:

at least one circuit switch fabric;

at least one packet switch fabric; and

a controller configured to ~~separate telecommunications traffic received at the switch and to direct traffic to either a circuit or a packet switch fabric, the controller mapping map Internet Protocol (IP) traffic into ATM service categories; and direct mapped, IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric or packet switch fabric depending on the ATM service category of the so mapped traffic and directing IP traffic corresponding to at least one ATM service category to a circuit switch fabric.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 1 wherein a portion of the circuit switch fabric resources are provisioned for circuit switched traffic and the remaining portion of the circuit switch fabric resources are allocated to IP traffic as the controller routes [[the]] IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric.

3. (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 2 wherein the controller is further configured to ~~employ a connection admission control algorithm to~~

allocate circuit switch fabric resources to traffic falling within an ATM service category.

4. (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 3 wherein the controller is further configured to route IP traffic mapped into a constant bit rate (CBR) ATM service category ~~traffic~~ to [[a]] the circuit switch fabric.

5. (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 3 wherein the controller is further configured to route IP traffic that has been mapped into [[the]] a real time variable bit rate (rt-VBR) ATM ~~traffic~~ service category to [[an]] the circuit switch fabric.

6. (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 3 wherein the controller is further configured to route IP traffic that has been mapped into an ATM traffic service category which is neither CBR nor rt-VBR traffic to [[an]] the IP switch fabric.

7. (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 3 wherein the controller is further configured to allocate available circuit switch resources, as indicated by a resource table, to received IP traffic requests.

8. (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 7 wherein the controller is further configured to maintain circuit switch ingress and egress resource tables.

9. (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 7 wherein the controller is further configured to pass an IP traffic request to a destination node and to establish an IP traffic path after having determined that all nodes along the proposed traffic path have accepted an IP traffic request.

10. (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 9 wherein the controller is further configured to determine whether IP traffic that has been mapped into the rt-VBR ATM service category is to be switched through [[an]] the circuit switch fabric.

11. (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 10 wherein the controller is further configured to determine whether IP traffic that has been mapped into the rt-VBR ATM service category is to be switched through [[a]] the circuit switch fabric based upon ~~the traffic's~~ a peak to sustained packet rate ratio.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for switching telecommunications traffic in a hybrid telecommunications switch comprising at least one packet switch fabric, at least one circuit switch fabric and a controller, including the steps of:

(A) ~~the controller separating telecommunications traffic received at the switch,~~

(B) ~~the controller mapping IP traffic into ATM service categories, [[and]] directing mapped, IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric or packet switch fabric depending on the ATM service category of the so-mapped traffic.~~

(C) ~~the controller directing traffic to either a packet or a circuit switch fabric, with IP traffic that has been mapped into at least one ATM service category being directed to an circuit switch fabric.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of:

[[(D)]] provisioning a portion of the circuit switch fabric resources for circuit switched traffic, and

[[(E)]] allocating the remaining portion of the circuit switch fabric resources to IP traffic as [[the]] a controller routes the IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 further wherein the allocation of step (E) comprising the step of:

(E1) the controller employing a connection admission control algorithm to allocate allocating circuit switch fabric resources to IP traffic.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein step (C) comprises further comprising the step of:

(C1) the controller routing IP traffic that has been mapped into [[the]] a CBR ATM service category to [[an]] the circuit switch fabric.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein step (C) comprises further comprising the step of:

(C2) the controller routing IP traffic that has been mapped into [[the]] an rt-VBR ATM service category to [[an]] the circuit switch fabric.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein step (C) comprises further comprising the step of:

(C3) the controller routing IP traffic that has been mapped into neither CBR nor rt-VBR ATM service categories to [[an]] the IP switch fabric.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein step (E)
~~comprises further comprising~~ the step of:

(E2) ~~the controller~~ allocating available circuit switch fabric resources, as indicated by a resource table, to IP traffic requests.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of:

(F) ~~the controller~~ maintaining circuit switch ingress and egress resource tables.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of:

(G) ~~the controller~~ passing an IP traffic request to a destination node.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 further comprising the step of:

(H) ~~the controller~~ determining that all nodes along the proposed IP traffic path have allocated circuit switch fabric resources for the IP traffic.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of:

[(I)] establishing an IP traffic path after the determination [(of)] step [(H)].

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of:

(J) ~~the controller determining whether IP traffic mapped into the rt-VBR ATM service category is to be switched through an IP switch fabric or a circuit switch fabric.~~

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23 ~~wherein step (J) comprises further comprising~~ the step of:

(J1) ~~the controller comparing the traffic's peak to a sustained packet ratio to a threshold value.~~

25. (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 9 wherein the controller is further configured to pass an IP traffic request to a destination node.

26. (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 9 wherein the controller is further configured to determine that all nodes along a proposed IP traffic path allocate circuit switch fabric resources for IP traffic.

27. (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 26 wherein the controller is further configured to establish an IP traffic path after determining that all nodes along a proposed IP traffic path allocate circuit switch fabric resources for IP traffic.